5: Fleure S-5 (no date)1939 E.D. Rumania EDI

543 443 We have classified the chief items observed at the fair between August 11th and 15th, 1936.

1. *Livestock.* Draught oxen, cows and calves, pigs and piglets. A few horses and goats. No sheep or fowl. The bargaining for cattle is completed when the buyer contrives to thrust a piece of silver into the hand of the seller. Acceptance of the earnest is followed by a hand-clasp.

●[391] 2. *Agricultural Implements and Metal-work.*—It is said that gipsy-made metal tools were formerly displayed, but what little metal-work is now sold is factory-made and comes mostly from Czechoslovakia—cow-bells (of sheet-metal), horse-bells (of cast-metal), knives, etc. Hay-forks are gipsy-made, as are washing tubs and cradles, hollowed out of split tree trunks. Kitchen spoons are hand-carved. Wooden saddles and gipsy-made baskets and brooms may come under this head.

3. *Fruits and Vegetables.*—Tomatoes, potatoes, sweet-corn, onions, garlic, peppers, cabbage, water-melons, gherkins, aubergines, pears, apples, plums, blackberries. Also eggs and cheese.

[323] 4. *Pottery.*—The chief local craft is naturally well represented. The vessels, displayed on the ground, vary greatly in size, decoration and purpose; but they are all of brown clay, usually with simple floral patterns and debased geometrical designs in burnt sienna, yellow and green: vessels with or without lids, with or without handles, with or without spouts, glazed inside, outside, or both, in size ranging from salt-and-pepper stands to large waterpots. We find the old device of making pots in imitation of birds and animals.

[282] 5. *Leatherwork.*—Several booths display white leather sheepskin waistcoats, having the wool inside and the outside decorated with applied strips of thin orange-dyed leather embroidered usually by machine stitching, but occasionally by hand. These waistcoats are made at Curtea de Arges. Leather belts, 4 to 6 inches wide, are machine-stitched but hand-tooled; they have buckle fastenings. Bridles and saddlery. Knotted leather thongs for whips. Hempen ropes for halters are sold in this section, too. Ready-made boots and shoes. The bulk of the shoes for sale, however, are made of rubber, in the shape of the traditional pointed shoe of skin. Most of them are cut from old motor tyres, but others are now made from specially manufactured rubber strips which repeat the patterns of the tyres.

A. GENERAL ENGINEERING

1. General

392 The general engineering industries of Rumania are comparatively small, though to meet the increased demand for engineering products development has been appreciable during the last decade.

[439] Rumania is most dependent on imports for her supplies of better class types of engineering equipment, such as machine tools, and whilst receiving technical assistance from Germany, has during 1942 and 1943 been purchasing engineering equipment in increasingly large quantities from Sweden.

391 The rougher classes of engineering products, such as nails, screws, rivets, chains and wire are produced in Rumania and there are a few firms such as Acta S.A.R., and Industria de Optica

Română S.A.R., both in Bucarest, which make precision mechanical instruments; and "Flexodo" Prima Fabrica Română de garnituri pentru frane S.A., also in Bucarest, which specialises in brakes, couplings and transmission equipment. Small tools are made by a few firms, but the quality is indifferent.

The largest individual firms in Rumania concerned with general engineering production are Reşiţa, Malaxa, Lemaitre, Vulcan and Fraţii Schiel, all of whom undertake diverse production including locomotive and wagon manufacture and structural engineering and boiler construction.

Rumanian firms, such as Uzinele Metalurgice Ploeşti and Concordia S.A.R. of Ploeşti, produce certain types of oil-well machinery and equipment, but the bulk of requirements, particularly of the more specialised types, have to be imported. Before the war the U.S.A. were the principal suppliers, but since the war Rumania has become dependent on Germany for this type of machinery, and in view of the importance of oil to Germany her requirements probably receive a high priority.

2. Agricultural Machinery

Rumanian agricultural methods are backward, and the degree of mechanisation is low, caused by lack of purchasing power of the peasants and the high percentage of small holdings, which make the use of modern equipment impracticable. For this reason the production of agricultural machinery has not been very highly developed, though there has been some expansion since 1927—production of implements has trebled between 1927 and 1937. Production of agricultural machines, however, declined by about 60 per cent. during the same period. Between

391 Between
407 1935 and 1937 the average annual internal sale of agricultural implements amounted to some 6,000 tons, of which two-thirds were home produced and the remainder imported. The average annual internal sale of agricultural machines during this period was 3,300 tons, of which only a fifth were home produced. Germany was the main supplier of agricultural machinery before the war, and since the outbreak of war, has continued to be so.

[437] Agricultural tractors in particular have been imported in increased quantities and it is believed that during the period 1940–1942, inclusive, some 4,000 units were imported, from Germany, as well as a few hundred from Italy.

Agricultural implements are produced in small quantities by about 15 general engineering firms, while the chief firms producing agricultural machinery are as follows :—

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Name of Firm	Location	Type of Product
1. Uzinele de Fier şi Domeniile din Reşiţa S.A.	Bocşa-Romana	Threshing machines, sifters and selectors for cleaning corn, harrows, seed-sowing machines, ploughs, etc., small agricultural implements
2. Schramm, Hüttl and Schmidt, S.A.	Topleţ (district Severin)	Threshing machines, harrows, sifters and selectors for cleaning corn, ploughs, seed-sowing machines
3. Fabricile de Maşini And. Rieger, S.A.	Sibiu	Threshing machines, harrows, sifters and selectors for cleaning corn, ploughs, etc.